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# Security Council

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## Letter dated 26 April 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you, so as to provide a better understanding of developments in Sun City, the Rwandan Government's reaction to the latest suspension of deliberations, and a press release from the Alliance pour la Sauvegarde du Dialogue Intercongolais (see annexes).

The Government of the Rwandese Republic has supported and continues to support the Inter-Congolese Dialogue as one of the major components for implementation of the Lusaka peace accords.

My Government thinks it is regrettable that two of the parties to the Inter-Congolese Dialogue have departed from the spirit of the Dialogue to conclude a self-serving agreement, without taking into account the interests of the Congolese nation and the Congolese people as a whole.

My Government appeals to all the Congolese parties to commit themselves to safeguarding the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, which everyone hopes will bring a definitive solution to a Congolese crisis that has lasted far too long.

I should be grateful if you would have this document and the two annexes circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Anastase **Gasana**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-35702 (E) 290402 290402

## Annex I to the letter dated 26 April 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]

## The Kabila-Bemba deal is not a product of the inter-Congolese dialogue

1. The principal objective of the inter-Congolese dialogue is to create, in a consensual manner, a new political dispensation and national reconciliation. All the parties to the negotiations enjoy equal status and all resolutions adopted through the inter-Congolese dialogue shall be binding on all participants. The dialogue should result in formation of transitional institutions, a unified army, and a reunified territory. These institutions must therefore be inclusive and consensual.

2. The dialogue is conducted under the aegis of a neutral facilitator agreed upon by the Congolese parties to the Lusaka Agreement, in the person of Sir Ketumile Masire, former President of Botswana. The dialogue, which was supposed to run for 45 days in Sun City, Republic of South Africa, was due to end on 12 April 2002. Only four of the five standing committees had completed their work and the plenary session had adopted 37 resolutions. The only outstanding issue then was the question of power-sharing in a framework of transitional institutions.

3. After consultations with all the parties, the host country's Head of State worked on a draft proposal, which was submitted to the facilitator. The parties were given seven days within which to submit amendments or counterproposals for negotiations. All the parties except the Government and MLC submitted and discussed their views.

4. On 18 April, the Government and MLC announced their deal to the consternation of all the other negotiators, most of whom they had contacted. The two could not get support either for their deal or for operating outside the facilitation. It was an act of defiance against the Congolese people, the facilitator, the host country, and all the signatories of the Lusaka Agreement.

5. The response of the facilitator was quick and firm. He characterized the so-called deal as "a satellite out of orbit which should be controlled and brought back". The Congolese parties roundly condemned it. The so-called deal was a non-starter. The deal sought to consolidate Kabila's hold on power, ignoring all the other parties. Bemba sold his movement and his erstwhile allies down the drain. The political opposition and the Forces vives were contemptuously left out.

6. We recommend:

- that the parties return to the dialogue under the aegis of the facilitator;
- that negotiations resume, through the Follow-up Committee proposed by the facilitator on 19 April 2002;
- that negotiations continue on the basis of the 12 April power-sharing proposal;

- that the parties ensure that the conclusions are based on respect for all, power-sharing, and inclusiveness.

The Government of the Republic of Rwanda
24 April 2002

## Annex II to the letter dated 26 April 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

## Press release from the Alliance pour la Sauvegarde du Dialogue Intercongolais in response to the press release from the President of the Security Council

The Alliance pour la Sauvegarde du Dialogue Intercongolais is surprised by the press release issued in New York on 23 April 2002 by the President of the United Nations Security Council, Ambassador Sergey Lavrov of the Russian Federation, concerning the work of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in Sun City, South Africa.

In response to that press release, the Alliance issues the following statement:

1. The Security Council must be aware, as it had its representatives in Sun City, that what it considers a political agreement wrongly attributed to the Inter-Congolese Dialogue is in fact only a private arrangement between two of the five parties to the Inter-Congolese Dialogue. That agreement was negotiated in a hotel room in the utmost secrecy, far from the neutral Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, Sir Ketumile Masire, and the President of the host country, His Excellency Mr. Thabo Mbeki of South Africa.

2. This arrangement between two parties was publicly described by the Facilitator in the plenary session on 19 April 2002 as a coup d'état. It is a strike against the Congolese nation, an act of sabotage against the Facilitator's efforts and a challenge to Africa as a whole and, in particular, to South Africa and its President, whose moral and material support for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue has been crucial.

3. Through the neutral Facilitator, President Mbeki had submitted to the Inter-Congolese Dialogue a plan to address the last item on the agenda of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue: the new political order. The plan had been welcomed by all the parties to the Dialogue, except MLC, which had transmitted amendments and comments to the Facilitator and President Mbeki. As the plenary session was about to debate those amendments, the Kinshasa Government and MLC announced the arrangement they had concluded outside the official framework of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue. During that plenary session, the two parties even refused to submit their agreement for consideration.

4. This informal arrangement simply allowed two men, President Joseph Kabila and Mr. Jean-Pierre Bemba, to appoint themselves President of the Republic and Prime Minister. It does not meet any of the objectives of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue. It does not permit reunification of the national territory, establishment of peace and security in the country, national reconciliation, consensual and inclusive management of the transition through a new institutional framework, or the holding of free and transparent elections towards the end of the transition.

5. If the Government and MLC really want a peaceful settlement of the crisis in our country, their only option is to return to the negotiating table within the

framework of the Follow-up Committee established by the plenary session of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in the presence of President Thabo Mbeki, the goal of which is to pursue consultations with a view to bringing the Inter-Congolese Dialogue to fruition.

6. The Alliance denounces that private, informal, illegal, exclusive and non-consensual agreement, which represents a genuine conspiracy against the Congolese nation. It reiterates its commitment to respect the process of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in accordance with the Lusaka Agreement.

7. The Alliance reaffirms its involvement in the Follow-up Committee with a view to establishing, in a consensual and inclusive manner, the new transitional institutions and appointing the coordinators.

8. The alliance appeals to the Congolese people to resist by peaceful means the acts of deception perpetrated by the Kinshasa Government and MLC, which attempted to use the framework of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in order to seize power. It calls on the neutral Facilitator to pursue his mission to the end, bearing in mind the objectives of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue.

9. The Alliance calls on peace-loving and freedom-loving countries and the international community to exert appropriate pressure on the Kinshasa Government and MLC, so as to prevent a resumption of hostilities or the de facto partition of the Democratic Republic of the Congo embodied in that private agreement.

10. Lastly, the Alliance declares its determination to do its utmost to thwart any move that would violate the letter and spirit of the Lusaka Agreement or the Inter-Congolese Dialogue.

DONE at Johannesburg, South Africa, on 25 April 2002.

For the organizations and groups in the political opposition:

(*Signed*) Tshisekedi **wa Mulumba**
National President of the Union pour la
Démocratie et le Progrès Social (UDPS)

(*Signed*) Raphaël **Katebe Katoto**
President of the Dynamique pour une Transition Neutre (DPTN)

(*Signed*) Franck **Diongo**
For the Group of 20
National President of the Mouvement Lumumbiste Progressiste (MLP)

(*Signed*) Alafuele Mbuyi **Kalala**
President of the Rassemblement pour une Nouvelle Société (RNS)

For the Rassemblement Congolais pour la Démocratie (RCD):

(*Signed*) Adolphe **Onusumba Yemba**
President